

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-23 (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A method of treating a hormonal dependent benign or malignant disease of the breast or reproductive tract by administration to a human in need of such treatment an intra-muscular injection of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising fulvestrant, 30% or less weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol per volume of formulation, at least 1% weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent miscible in a ricinoleate vehicle per volume of formulation and a sufficient amount of a ricinoleate vehicle, whereby a therapeutically significant blood plasma fulvestrant concentration of at least 2.5ngml^{-1} is attained for at least 2 weeks after injection.

25. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 wherein the benign or malignant disease is breast cancer.

26. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 wherein the blood plasma fulvestrant concentration is attained for at least 4 weeks after injection.

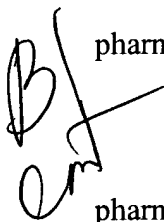
27. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 wherein the blood plasma fulvestrant concentration is attained for 2 to 5 weeks after injection.

28. (currently amended) A method of treating a hormonal dependent benign or malignant disease of the breast or reproductive tract by administration to a human in need of such treatment an intra-muscular injection of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising fulvestrant, 30% or less weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol per volume of formulation, at least 1% weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent miscible in a ricinoleate vehicle per volume of formulation and a sufficient amount of a ricinoleate vehicle whereby the formulation comprises at least 45mgml^{-1} of fulvestrant.

29. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 or 28 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 25% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol.

30. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 29 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 20% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol.

31. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 29 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 15-25% w/v of a pharmaceutically acceptable alcohol.

 32. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 29 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 17-23% w/v of a pharmaceutically acceptable alcohol.

33. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 or 28 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 60% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

34. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 50%w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent .


35. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 45% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

36. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 40% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

37. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 35% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

38. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 30% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

39. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 25% w/v or less of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

 40. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 10-25% w/v of a pharmaceutically acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

41. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the pharmaceutical formulation contains 12-18% w/v of a pharmaceutically acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent.

42. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 or 28 wherein the pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol is a mixture of ethanol and benzyl alcohol.

43. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 or 28 wherein the pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent is selected from benzyl benzoate, ethyl oleate, isopropyl myristate, isopropyl palmitate or a mixture of any thereof.

44. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 43 wherein the pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent is benzyl benzoate.

45. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 or 28 wherein the total volume of the formulation administered to said human is 6ml or less, and the concentration of fulvestrant in said formulation is at least 45mgml^{-1} .

46. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 or 28 wherein the total volume of the formulation administered to said human is 6ml or less, and the total amount of fulvestrant in said volume of formulation is 250mg or more.

47. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the total volume of the formulation is from 5 to 5.25ml, the total amount of fulvestrant in said volume of formulation is 250mg.

48. (previously added) The method as claimed in claim 24 or 28 wherein the pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol is a mixture of 10% weight of ethanol per volume of formulation, 10% weight of benzyl alcohol per volume of formulation and 15% weight of benzyl benzoate per volume of formulation and the ricinoleate vehicle is castor oil.

49. (currently amended) A method of treating a hormonal dependent benign or malignant disease of the breast or reproductive tract by administration to a human in need of such treatment an intra-muscular injection of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising fulvestrant, 15-25% weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol per volume of formulation, 10-25 % weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent miscible in a ricinoleate vehicle per volume of formulation and a sufficient amount of a ricinoleate vehicle so as to prepare a formulation of at least 45mgml^{-1} of fulvestrant.

50. (currently amended) A method of treating a hormonal dependent benign or malignant disease of the breast or reproductive tract by administration to a human in need of such treatment an intra-muscular injection of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising fulvestrant, 17-23% weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable alcohol per volume of formulation, 12-18 % weight of a pharmaceutically-acceptable non-aqueous ester solvent

miscible in a ricinoleate vehicle per volume of formulation and a sufficient amount of a
ricinoleate vehicle so as to prepare a formulation of at least 45mgml^{-1} of fulvestrant.
